

**Amendments to the Claims:**

23. (Amended) An information recording medium [according to claim 21,] for use in an information reproducing system having code reading means for reading a dot code from an information recording medium on which multimedia information including at least any one of audio information, image information and digital code data has been recorded in the form of a dot code which can optically be read; binarizing means for generating binarized data, by use of a predetermined threshold value, from an image signal corresponding to an image of the dot code read by said code reading means; and information reproducing means for restoring the binarized data generated by said binarizing means to the multimedia information and for reproducing the multimedia information, said information recording medium comprising:

data dots which correspond to contents of multimedia information and which can optically be read; and

a reference dot arranged for use by said binarizing means when said binarizing means binarizes the image signal and modifies the predetermined threshold value so that an area of the reference dot in the image of the dot code read by said code reading means approaches a predetermined target value, said reference dot being at least part of a pattern code for use in determining positions for reading the data dots;

wherein said information recording medium has dot interval  
measuring dots for measuring a dot interval for correcting at  
25 least one of the area of the reference dot detected by said  
binarizing means and the predetermined target value.